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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/045,774	01/09/2002	Wayne A. Downer	BEA920010031US1	3043
23441	7590	11/23/2004	EXAMINER	
LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL DRYJA 704 228TH AVENUE NE PMB 694 SAMMAMISH, WA 98074			DU, THUAN N	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2116		

DATE MAILED: 11/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/045,774	DOWNER ET AL.	
	Examiner Thuan N. Du	Art Unit 2116	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2002.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 10-22 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-5 and 9 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 6-8 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 6
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/23/02 .

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed of record in the file: IDS (dated 4/23/02).
2. Applicant is hereby requested to update the status of all co-pending applications indicated in the instant application.
3. Claims 1-22 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zalewski et al. [Zalewski] (U.S. Patent No. 6,647,508).

6. Regarding claims 1 and 9, Zalewski teaches a method for removing a building block of a platform from a partition of the platform comprising:

halting activity by the partition on the building block [col. 8, lines 51-55], the partition indicated by a first partition identifier of the building block [col. 9, lines 52-60]; withdrawing resources of the building block from the partition [col. 21, lines 53-55]; and deauthorizing the building block from the partition [col. 8, lines 51-54].

Zalewski does not teach that the building block having joined the partition in a masterless manner. However, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the steps for removing a building block would be the same in both master and masterless manner except that the removing process is either controlled by a master console or self-controlled.

7. Regarding claims 2-4, Zalewski teaches that a program is provided to control the removal of a building block [col. 8, lines 51-52]. Therefor, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that all of the activities of the building block, including memory usage, I/O activity and/or processor tasks, must be halted under control of the program before the building block is removed.

8. Regarding claim 5, Zalewski teaches that the deauthorizing the building block from the partition comprises turning off a commit indicator of the building block [col. 22, lines 2-4].

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 6-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

10. Claims 10-22 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

11. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's claimed invention distinguishes over the prior art for the following reasons. The claims are allowable over the prior art of record because none of the references, either alone or in combination, discloses or renders obvious each of the building blocks comprising, among other things, a physical port identifier, a logical port identifier, and a partition identifier, wherein the physical port identifier, the logical port identifier, and the partition identifier are used to indicate the removal building block.

Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuan N. Du whose telephone number is (571) 272-3673. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday and Wednesday-Friday: 10:00 AM - 8:30 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne H. Browne can be reached on (571) 272-3670.

Central TC telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

The fax number for the organization is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).



Thuan N. Du
November 19, 2004